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	Length.	Average Tonnage.	Kilometric Tonnage.	Percentage.
Railroads.....	32,128 kms.	323,989	10,409,134,968	68
Rivers and canals	12,499 “	254,394	3,179,676,622	21
Highways.....	37,803 “	45,870	1,734,004,422	11
	82,430 kms.	185,890	15,322,816,012	100

One of the charts shows the increase by departments in road traffic. This indicates a very considerable growth since the last censuses in 1876 and 1882, and one which appears to be in an increasing ratio. The average increase in “colliers” from 1876 to 1882 was 5.08 per cent; and from 1882 to 1888, 8.25 per cent, or an increase of 13.73 per cent in 12 years. This is especially important as disproving the statement, so often made, that the highway is a thing of the past, and that the maintenance of an extended system of state roads is an unnecessary expense.

The only additional feature of this album is six charts showing the increase of travel and trade due to the Exposition at Paris. These show by diagrams the number of visitors compared with the expositions of 1867 and 1878, and the movement of people in the city of Paris and at the frontiers. The last chart shows the relative attendance at the various theatres and shows of Paris, thus bringing out the importance of the Exposition as a source of revenue to the city.

WILLIAM Z. RIPLEY.

PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE CENSUS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following paragraphs are condensed from the *Preliminary Report* of the Commissioners of England.

The total number of persons returned as living in England and Wales at 12 p.m. on the 5th of April, 1891, was 29,001,018.

This shows an increase of 3,026,579, or of 11.65 per cent, upon the number returned at the previous enumeration of April, 1881.

Not only was this increase absolutely less than that of the preceding decennium, 1871–81, but the rate of increase was lower than in

any previous decennial period in the century, that is, in any decennium since the first enumeration in this country.

Date of Enumeration.	Number of Inhabited Houses.	Population.		Decennial Rate of Increase per Cent.
		Males.	Females.	
1801, March 10.....	1,575,923	4,254,735	4,637,801
1811, May 27.....	1,797,504	4,873,605	5,290,651	14.30
1821, " 28.....	2,088,156	5,850,319	6,149,917	18.06
1831, " 29.....	2,481,544	6,771,196	7,125,601	15.80
1841, June 7.....	2,943,945	7,777,586	8,136,562	14.52
1851, March 31.....	3,278,039	8,781,225	9,146,384	12.65
1861, April 8.....	3,739,505	9,776,259	10,289,965	11.93
1871, " 3.....	4,259,117	11,058,934	11,653,332	13.19
1881, " 4.....	4,831,519	12,639,902	13,334,537	14.36
1891, " 5.....	5,460,976	14,050,620	14,950,398	11.65

The recent decline in the rate of growth may be due to either of two causes, namely, a falling off in the excess of births over deaths, that is, in the "natural increment," or to an increase in the excess of emigrants* over immigrants. As a matter of fact, it was due to both these causes, acting in combination.

For had the excess of births over deaths, or natural increase, been in the same proportion to the population as it was in the preceding decennium, the addition to the population from this cause would have amounted to 3,919,543, whereas it was in fact only 3,630,761, so that there was a falling off of 288,782 under this heading. Again, had the loss by excess of emigrants borne the same proportion to the population as in 1871-81, the decrease under this heading would have been only 189,614, whereas the figures show that it must have amounted to no less than 604,182.

These two deficiencies, namely, the 288,782 from diminished natural increase, and the 414,568 from increased excess of emigrants, together make up the 703,350, by which the enumerated population falls short of the number estimated on the hypothesis of a maintenance of the preceding intercensal growth.

The decline in the natural increase was not due to increased mor-

* "Emigrant" as used in this report includes: (1) Emigrants proper, that is, persons who have left the country to establish themselves outside Europe. (2) Persons who have gone abroad as travellers, etc. (3) Persons who have migrated from England and Wales to other parts of the United Kingdom. (4) Any persons who died in the decennium, but whose deaths were not registered at the date of the enumeration.

"Immigrant" of course is used to include the opposites of these groups

tality, for the mean annual death rate in 1881-91 was lower than in any earlier decennium, but to a persistent decline in the birth rate, which, as the following table shows, was unprecedentedly low : —

Intercensal Periods.	Increase per Cent by Births.	Decrease per Cent by Deaths.	Gain per Cent by Excess of Births over Deaths or Natural Increase.
1841-51	34.64	23.73	10.91
1851-61	36.19	23.58	12.61
1861-71	37.56	23.98	13.58
1871-81	37.89	22.80	15.09
1881-91	34.26	20.28	13.98

To each 100 males enumerated there were 106.4 females. The proportion of females to males has been steadily increasing at each census since 1851, having been successively 104.2, 105.3, 105.4, 105.5, and 106.4 to 100.

The rate of increase in the last decennium was 11.2 per cent for males, and 12.1 per cent for females. But the “natural increment” of the males, that is the number of male births *minus* the number of male deaths, was 1,821,366, or 14.5 per cent of the male population in 1881, while the natural increment of the females was 1,809,395, or 13.6 per cent of the female population. From this it follows that the 604,182 persons who constituted the balance of emigrants over immigrants consisted of 410,648 males and 193,534 females, and that the increased proportion of females in the population was due entirely to the excess of male emigrants. Had there been neither emigration nor immigration the females would have been only 104.7 to 100 males.

The increase of population was by no means equably spread over the country. In 271 of the 632 registration districts into which England and Wales are divided for registration purposes the returns show an actual falling off in the number of inhabitants, and in 202 out of these 271 districts there had also been a decline of population between 1871 and 1881.

The terms urban and rural are habitually used without any such precise meaning as would enable a clear line of demarcation to be drawn between the two. For statistical purposes, however, some strict definition must be adopted; and probably it will be best, as certainly it will be most convenient, to define the urban population as

the aggregate inhabitants of London and the urban sanitary districts, the remainder of the population constituting the rural population.

Urban Sanitary Districts, with Population of —	Number of Districts.	Aggregate Population 1891.	Mean Percentage of Increase of Population, 1881-91.
250,000 and upwards.....	6*	6,375,645	9.1
100,000 to 250,000.....	18	2,793,625	19.1
50,000 to 100,000.....	38	2,610,976	22.9
20,000 to 50,000.....	120	3,655,025	22.5
10,000 to 20,000.....	176	2,391,076	18.9
3,000 to 10,000.....	453	2,609,141	9.6
Under 3,000.....	195	367,282	2.6
Total.....	1,006	20,802,770	15.3

* Including the Administrative County of London, which is here reckoned as one district.

The population of London, meaning thereby the London of the Registrar-General, which with an insignificant exception* coincides with the administrative county of London, was 4,211,056, showing an increase of 395,512, or 10.4 per cent upon the population of 1881. Thus the population of London increased in a somewhat lower ratio than the population of England and Wales as a whole; and the fact is notable, inasmuch as it is the first time that such a phenomenon has presented itself, London having been found in every preceding intercensal period to have gained more or less in its proportions as compared with the country at large.

PROPORTION OF POPULATION IN LONDON AT THE TEN ENUMERATIONS.

Year of Enumeration.	Persons in London to 100 in England and Wales.
1801	10.78
1811	11.20
1821	11.49
1831	11.91
1841	12.24
1851	13.18
1861	13.97
1871	14.33
1881	14.69
1891	14.52

* The civil parish of Penge is included in the administrative county of London but not in registration London.

POPULATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The total population of the United Kingdom consisted on April 6th last of 37,740,283 persons. This was an increase of 2,855,435 upon the enumerated population in 1881, and was equivalent to an average daily addition of 781 persons to the community throughout the decennium, the daily addition having been 931 in 1871–81 and 701 in 1861–71.

	Enumerated Population of the United Kingdom at successive Censuses, 1881–91.		Increase or Decrease per Cent of the Population in 1871–81, 1881–91.	
	1881.	1891.	1871–81.	1881–91.
United Kingdom.....	34,884,848	37,740,283	10.8	8.2
England.....	24,613,926	27,482,104	14.5	11.7
Wales.....	1,360,513	1,518,914	11.8	11.6
Scotland.....	3,735,573	4,033,103	11.2	8.0
Ireland.....	5,174,836	4,706,162	— 4.4	— 9.1

NOTE.— Where no minus sign is prefixed the figures denote an increase.

The population of the islands in the British seas was as follows : —

	1881.	1891.
Islands in the British Seas.....	141,260	147,870
Isle of Man.....	53,558	55,598
Channel Islands —		
Jersey.....	52,445	54,518
Guernsey (with Herm and Jethou)	32,638	35,339
Alderney.....	2,048	1,843
Sark.....	571	572

The population of the different provinces in Ireland was : —

Provinces.	Number of Persons in 1891.	Decrease between 1881 and 1891.	Rate per Cent
Leinster.....	1,195,718	83,271	6.5
Munster.....	1,168,994	162,121	12.2
Ulster.....	1,617,877	125,198	7.2
Connaught.....	723,573	98,084	11.9
Total of Ireland.....	4,706,162	468,674	9.1

The following table shows the religious professions, so far as ascertained, in Ireland in 1891 :—

		Religious Professions.						
		Roman Catholics.	Protestant Episcopalians.	Presbyterians.	Methodists.	Jews.	All other Persuasions.	Information Refused.
Total of Ireland	{ 1881 ..	3,960,891	639,574	470,734	48,839	472	53,796	530
	{ 1891 ..	3,549,745	600,830	446,687	55,235	1,798	50,165	1,702
Increase or decrease between 1881 and 1891.....	Number...	Decrease. 411,146	Decrease. 38,744	Decrease. 24,047	Increase. 6,396	Increase. 1,326	Decrease. 3,631	Increase. 1,172
	Rate } per cent.	Decrease. 10.4	Decrease. 6.4	Decrease. 5.1	Increase. 13.1	Increase. 280.9	Decrease. 6.7	Increase. 221.1